change.org

Petition details Comments

Let Readers Read: An Open Letter to the Publishers in Hachette v. Internet Archive:

Started June 13, 2024
Petition to Publishers suing the Internet Archive: Hachette, HarperCollins, Penguin Random House & Wiley

26,528
Signatures

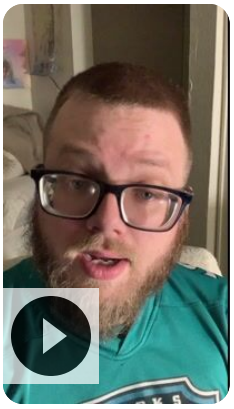
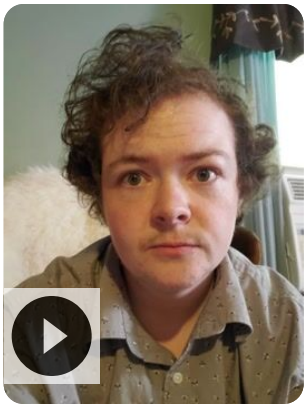
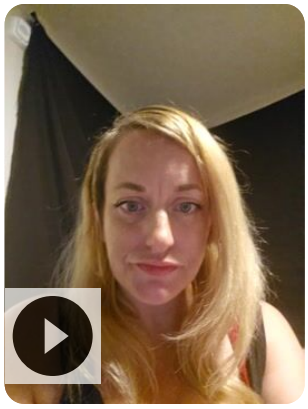
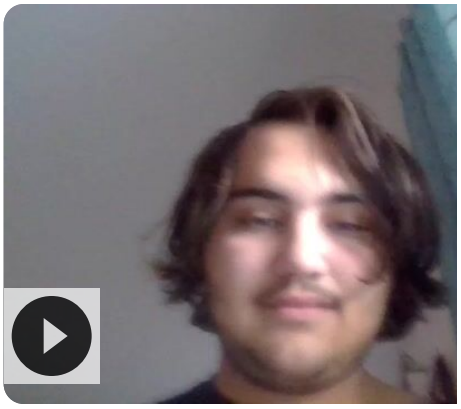
35,000
Next Goal

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

View all

Why this petition matters

Started by Chris Freeland

Media Inquiries

Dear Publishers,

We, the undersigned, are lifelong beneficiaries of libraries. We are avid readers, educators, researchers, librarians, authors, publishers and lifelong learners whose lives and communities have been transformed by public access to knowledge. In light of the ongoing legal battle in ***Hachette v. Internet Archive***, we are writing to urge you to reconsider your stance and **restore our access to the books** that you have caused to be removed from the Internet Archive's lending collection.

For more than twenty years, the Internet Archive has empowered students, teachers, and readers around the world, providing access to a vital library of books, many of which are otherwise inaccessible to readers due to geographical, financial, or physical constraints.

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

1. Educational Impact: Students, scholars, and educators rely on the Internet Archive for access to research materials and literature that support their learning and academic growth, particularly in underserved communities where access is limited. Your removal of these books impedes academic progress and innovation, as well as imperiling the preservation of our cultural and historical knowledge.

2. Equity and Accessibility: The Internet Archive democratizes access to knowledge. By restricting access to these books, you have made it harder for the most vulnerable people in our society to read and learn. Not everyone has a local library, can afford to travel to one, feels safe accessing the information they need in public, or can ignore the potentially life-altering repercussions when tech platforms collect data on their reading habits. Your removal of more than 500,000 books from public access is a serious blow to lower-income families, people with disabilities, rural communities, and LGBTQ+ people, among many others.

3. Cultural Preservation: Libraries' digital preservation of books ensures that our cultural heritage is maintained for future generations. In order to preserve digital books, libraries must be allowed to own them, not just license them short-term. Your attack on the rights of libraries is an attack on cultural preservation.

We understand the importance of protecting authors' rights and ensuring fair compensation for their work. There is a way to achieve these goals while still allowing libraries to do what they have always done—help readers read. We urge you to explore solutions with the Internet Archive that support both authors and the public good, such as selling eBooks to libraries to own, lend, and preserve.

In the spirit of fostering a more equitable, informed, and connected world, **we respectfully ask you to restore access to the books you've taken down**, and work with the Internet Archive to find a sustainable solution that empowers everyone in our society to read and learn.

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

Report a policy violation

Media Resources

Are you a member of the media looking to cover this petition?
Reach out for available actions.

Decision Makers

Publishers suing the Internet Archive: Hachette, HarperCollins, Pengu...

Support Change - **Become a Member Today**

Not beholden to politics or power brokers, Change.org is free for people everywhere to make change. Every day there are real victories for issues you care about, only possible because we are 100% funded by everyday people like you.

Will you stand with us to protect the

$3 **$5** **$10**

$20 **Other**

Support Change.org

Pay with credit card or PayPal

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

Media Mentions

Detected by Change.org

Detected by Change.org

Detected by Change.org

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

Change.org › Education ›
Let Readers Read: An Open Letter to the Publishers in Hachette v. Internet Archive:

Company

About

Impact

Careers

Team

Community

Blog

Press

Community Guidelines

Support

Help

Privacy

Terms

Connect

Twitter

Facebook

Instagram

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition

How To Write A Petition

Do Petitions Work

What is the Right To Petition

How to Start a School Petition

English (United States)

© 2024, Change.org, PBC

This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.

1,370 people signed today

Sign Petition